

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8-11 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 2 being independent. Claims 3, 5 and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 11 have been amended herein.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his indication that Claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In keeping with this indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants have amended independent Claim 2 to include the features of Claim 7 as well as intervening Claims 3 and 5. Thus, Claim 2, as well as Claims 4, 6 and 8-11, which depend therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance. In addition, independent Claim 1, which is directed to a liquid detection method, has been amended to include features similar to those added to Claim 2. Independent Claim 1 is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. In view of the reasons discussed above, this rejection is deemed moot.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the objection and rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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